

Ecotrust Job Opportunity: Port Liaison(s) for Commercial Fishing Study

Ecotrust is under contract with the California Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative to compile expert knowledge from fishermen to create a comprehensive dataset of commercial fishing use patterns in the north central coast of California, from Pigeon Point (north of Santa Cruz) to Alder Creek (north of Point Arena).

Ecotrust was previously contracted by the MLPA Initiative to compile expert knowledge from fishermen to create a comprehensive dataset of commercial fishing use patterns along the central coast of California. The project greatly benefited from working closely with members of the fishing community who assisted Ecotrust staff in identifying fishermen, arranging interviews, and providing meeting space. This work constituted an innovative and vital contribution to the understanding of the extent and economic importance of fisheries in the region, and involved fishermen in participatory research. Ecotrust has been retained to conduct similar research in the next study region of the MLPA Initiative.

Job Description: Port Liaison(s)

Ecotrust is currently looking for commercial fishermen or members of the fishing community, who are willing to participate as port liaisons in support of this work in the north central coast study region. Port liaisons will work with Ecotrust staff and field teams to:

- arrange introductory meetings;
- identify and contact commercial fishermen;
- help arrange interviews;
- help gather and update existing port\community profile database; and
- arrange meetings to verify results.

This work is in support of the MLPA Initiative, a statewide private-public effort to design and manage an improved network of marine protected areas in California.

Desired skills or experience:

- experience or interest in collaborative research,
- ability to work with wide variety of people, and
- knowledge of fishing industry and port operations

Port liaisons will be compensated for their services. **For more information**, please contact Charles Steinback, charles@ecotrust.org, or Astrid Scholz, ajscholz@ecotrust.org.

Ecotrust (www.ecotrust.org) is a conservation and economic development organization that works to strengthen communities and the environment from Alaska to California and is committed to the notion that every transaction should enrich people and place. Ecotrust works with native peoples and in the fisheries, forestry and farming sectors to build a regional economy that is based on social and ecological opportunities.